

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1953
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2007
MONITORING OF 15 POINT PROGRAMME FOR MINORITIES
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently directed the Ministries/departments for constant monitoring of the programme for affirmative action for minorities;
- (b) if so, whether recently a review of Prime Minister new 15 point programme for the welfare of minorities has shown that while the rate of minorities in para military forces is slightly gone up, however status of education and availability of loans are the areas of concern and have no sign of progress;
- (c) If so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and
- (d) The steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard"?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (A.R. ANTULAY)

(a),(b),(c) & (d) : Guidelines for implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities, sent to all the Ministries / Departments concerned, include a mechanism for close monitoring. The monitoring mechanism has been strengthened recently. Following the issue of revised guidelines in January, 2007, the recruitment of personnel from minorities in some central para military forces has shown an encouraging trend. A number of measures have been taken to improve educational facilities for the minorities through exclusive schemes for them, in addition to the initiatives taken by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. For improving credit facilities for the minorities, instructions have been issued to all public sector banks to increase the flow of credit to the minority communities to 15% of priority sector lending in the next three years.